

SB260: Felony for Illegal Aliens to register to vote

We need to use the short amount of time that we have this session to make good laws that will stand the test of time, that reveal the collective wisdom and compassion of the good people of Montana.

Unfortunately, Bill 260 demeans us and this lawmaking body. This legislation is part of a larger movement born out of fear and hate. It is already illegal to register to vote in the United States if you are not a naturalized citizen. According to the INS, Montana, the Dakotas and five other states make up less than 0.1% of the illegal alien population in the US.¹ We have more pressing issues to spend our time on. Making it a felony for illegal immigrants to register to vote in Montana is a bad solution looking for a problem.

Montana, and this lawmaking body, is better than this. This Bill exhibits no honor, no wisdom, no compassion only fear and racism. I urge you to stop this legislation, and that like it still to come, right here in this committee.

¹ *Estimates of the Unauthorized Immigrant Population Residing in the United States: 1990 to 2000*. Office of Policy and Planning U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service. Available online at http://www.dhs.gov/xlibrary/assets/statistics/publications/III_Report_1211.pdf